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Paediatric Cataract-Summary & Conclusion of My Study

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Abstract

Aim: To describe and analyze the current techniques utilized in the management of paediatric cataracts and the visual out come.

Materials & Methods A retrospective study of 68 subjects who had undergone cataract surgery during 2007-08 in Govt. REH. PMMA Lens (12mm) was implanted in the bag for children more than 2 years. Intraocular lenses were not implanted for children aged less than 2 years. Optical correction was given. **Results/Discussions:** Gender ratio is M: F 7: 1; Maximum 43.75% is in 6-9 age group ; The mean IOL

power used in these subjects is 21.72 D; Despite the continued threat of amblyopia, the visual prognosis for a child with a congenital, development or traumatic cataract has improved dramatically.

Conclusions: *Role of rubella and trauma in childhood cataract should be investigated and addressed. Cataract surgery with unilateral and bilateral IOL implantation can provide a beneficial effect on final visual outcome in children who are operated-on, before abnormal foveolar function develops.* **Keywords:** *PMMA-Poly Methyl Methacrylate; REH: Regional Eve Hospital.*

Summary

This study is performed to find the ways to lessen the complications of paediatric cataract surgery. However there are some complications to paediatric surgery, which threatens the vision development. The most common complication is after cataract.

The most feared complication is Glaucoma and Uveitis. The younger the infant at surgery, the more is the secondary glaucoma, Uveitis and there is development of after cataract. The children must have surgery early in life, to avoid irreversible amblyopia.

Early diagnosis of congenital cataracts is essential in ensuring treatment, together with parental advice and support. There is a good scope for investigating them using many approaches. Many questions can be easily addressed through trials and clinical studies.

The first attempt to review paediatric cataracts in central India was done by Khandekar Rajiv et al, in 2003. There is limited information available about the long-term outcomes in children treated with modern surgical techniques especially about those treated for paediatric cataract in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. The aim is to improve the visual prognosis in these patients.

This study comprises a consecutive series of 48 paediatric patients with congenital or developmental cataracts who received surgery between Jan, 2007 and June, 2008 at Govt. Regional Eye Hospital in Visakhapatnam. The study design and protocol are submitted to NTR University of Health Sciences for approval.

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Patients 'demographics, cataract type, presenting symptoms, surgical intervention, postoperative visual acuity and follow-up refractive changes are recorded. Evaluation included visual assessment, anterior and posterior segment examinations.

The surgical procedures included cataract extraction, intraocular implantation, lens (Posterior capsulorrhexis and anterior vitrectomy in some cases) in most of the cases. The visual status of the eyes with cataract before and 6 weeks after surgery has been evaluated. The results thus analyzed and discussed obtained are in comparison with the existing studies in the literature.

Males are more predominantly affected than females and the ratio is M: F 7:1, Maximum affected (43.75%) is in 6-9 age group. Mean age is 7.94 ± 0.75 years, Maximum people belonged to Lower social economic group 85.42%, followed by middle class people i.e. 14.58%.

Maximum are congenital or developmental 60.42% followed by traumatic in 37.5%. In this series, Zonular cataracts are the maximum amounting to 65% followed by total cortical cataract and anterior subscapular being 10.33% each.

Intra operative complications are seen only in 16.5% of the cases, commoner being difficult rhexis in 6.08%, intra operative miosis and wound leak 4.17% each and least is PC Tear in 2.08%. PCO is the major and most common post operative complication amounting to 60%, next being Amblyopia 30%.

Pupillary captures of IOL and Uveitis have occurred in 4.17% and 6.08% of cases respectively. Many 29.17% of cases could get visual acuity<3/60 and another 27.25% could get visual acuity between 3/60 to 6/60. In 16.67% of the subjects the vision could get between 6/60 to 6/18. In another major chunk of subjects i.e. 20.83% vision could not be assessed.

The results of the current study are in accordance with the findings of other workers observations existing in the literature. Any minor deviation may be due to small sample size, sampling error as well as due to geographical variation.

 Table No. 1 Gender distribution in the present sample

Sex	n	Percentage (%)
Male	42	87
Female	6	13
Total	48	100

Table No. 1 and figure No.1 depicts the gender distribution of the subjects in the present sample. It is obvious that males are more predominately affected than females and the ratio is M: F 7: 1

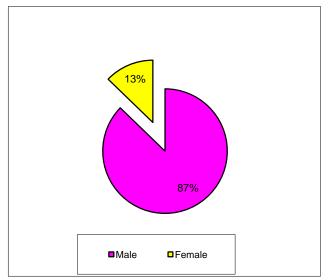


Figure No.1 Gender distribution in the present sample

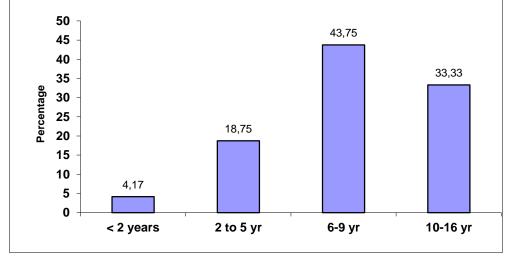
Table No.2 Frequency	distribution	of Age
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Age groups	Number of children (n)	Percentage (%)
< 2 years	2	4.17
2 to 5 yr	9	18.75
6-9 yr	21	43.75

The frequency distribution of different age groups in the present sample of paediatric cataract are shown in table No. 2 and figure No. 2. Accordingly maximum 43.75% is in 6-9 age group(school going children), followed by 10- 16 year (adolescent) age group 33.33%, 18.75% in 2-5 years age group and least being below 2 years age group 4.17%

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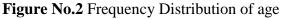


Table No 4 IOL Power - Descriptive Statistics

IOL power	Diopters
Mean	21.72
Median	21.00
Mode	20.00

The mean IOL power used in these subjects is 21.72 D, median being 21 D and mode is 20 D as shown in table No. 4

Conclusions

- Cataract is more common in male children (87%) compared to females.
- Cataract is more common in lower socioeconomic status in the age group of 6-9 Yrs. (43.75%)
- 3. Bilateral congenital and developmental cataracts of Zonular type is found to be more common in our study.
- 4. Unilateral cataracts, Bilateral cataracts where the management has been delayed or associated nystagmus and strabismus has set in, have a poor visual outcome.
- Primary posterior chamber Intraocular lenses are recommended for children 2 Yrs. Of age and older.
- 6. Most common complication is posterior capsular opacification, managed with YAG laser capsulotomy in most of the cases.

7. Early surgery combined with appropriate refractive correction and aggressive amblyopia therapy provides good visual outcome.

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